AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): An inside-vehicle information communication method, comprising steps of:

causing a server, provided in a vehicle, to output a request for electronic ticket information to an electric device possessed by a passenger of the vehicle, upon receipt of a request for connection from the electric device;

causing the server to receive the electronic ticket information, outputted from the electric device upon receipt of the request for the electronic ticket information; and

causing the server to confirm, based on the electronic ticket information, whether the passenger has a right to use the vehicle and to allow the electric device to be connected to the server to enable communication therebetween in the vehicle if the server confirms that the passenger has the right to use the vehicle.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): An inside-vehicle information communication method, comprising steps of:

causing a server, provided in a vehicle, to output requests for electronic ticket information to electric devices possessed by passengers of the vehicle, upon receipt of requests for connection from the electric devices;

causing the server to receive the electronic ticket information, outputted from the electric devices upon receipt of the requests for the electronic ticket information;

causing the server to confirm, based on the electronic ticket information, whether the passengers have a right to use the vehicle and to allow the electric devices possessed by

passengers confirmed to have the right to use the vehicle to be connected to the server to enable communication therebetween in the vehicle;

causing the server to output requests for private information, used to specify the electric devices, to the electric devices allowed to be connected to the server;

causing the server to receive the private information outputted from the electric devices upon receipt of the requests for the private information; and

causing the server to specify the electric devices in accordance with the private information.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The method set forth in claim 2, further comprising a step of causing the server to specify individual information, which is to be given to each of the electric devices allowed to be connected to the server, in accordance with the electronic ticket information received from the electric devices and transportation information concerning transportation of the vehicle that is stored in the server.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The method set forth in claim 3, further comprising a step of causing the server to transmit the specified individual information to the electric devices, in accordance with the respective private information for the electric devices.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The method set forth in claim 3, further comprising steps of:

causing the server to specify a time and/or geographical range, in which the server can be used, with respect to each of the electric devices allowed to be connected to the server, in accordance with the electronic ticket information received from the electric devices and the transportation information; and

performing a specific process with respect to one or more of the electric devices allowed to be connected to the server when the one or more electric devices is to be outside the time and/or geographical range in which the server can be used.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The method set forth in claim 5, wherein the specific process is a process for transmitting information, which indicates that the time and/or geographical range in which the server can be used is over, to the one or more electric devices.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The method set forth in claim 3, further comprising steps of:

causing the server to specify a time and/or geographical range in which users can use the vehicle, in accordance with the electronic ticket information received from the electric devices allowed to be connected to the server; and

causing the server to inform the electric devices allowed to be connected to the server that the time and/or geographical range is over, when these electric devices are to be outside the time and/or geographical range in which the vehicle can be used.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The method set forth in claim 2, further comprising a step of causing the server to perform an electric settlement via one or more of the electric devices possessed by each user.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The method set forth in claim 3, further comprising steps of:

causing the server to store information concerning a present time and/or a present position;

causing the server to calculate a deviation which occurs in a transport time and/or a transport position of the vehicle, in accordance with the transportation information and the present time and/or the present position; and

causing the server to rectify the transportation information in accordance with the deviation.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): An inside-vehicle information communication apparatus which is provided in a vehicle, comprising:

a communication section for transmitting information to and receiving information from an electric device possessed by a passenger of the vehicle; and

a managing section (a) for outputting a request for electronic ticket information to the electric device possessed by the passenger, upon receipt of a request for connection from the electric device, (b) for receiving the electronic ticket information via the communication section, (c) for confirming, based on the electronic ticket information, whether the passenger has a right to use the vehicle, and (d) for allowing the electric device possessed by the passenger to be connected to the inside-vehicle information communication apparatus to enable communication therebetween if the managing section confirms that the passenger has the right to use the vehicle.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The inside-vehicle information communication apparatus set forth in claim 10, wherein:

the managing section outputs a request for private information to specify the electric device allowed to be connected to the inside-vehicle information communication apparatus, and receives identification information outputted from the electric device upon receipt of the request for the private information, and

the electric device is specified in accordance with the identification information.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): An inside-vehicle information communication system, comprising:

an inside-vehicle information communication apparatus which is provided in a vehicle; and

an electric device possessed by a passenger of the vehicle,

the inside-vehicle information communication apparatus including: a communication section for transmitting information to and receiving information from the electric device; and a managing section (a) for outputting a request for electronic ticket information to the electric device possessed by the passenger, upon receipt of a request for connection from the electric device, (b) for receiving the electronic ticket information via the communication section, (c) for confirming, based on the electronic ticket information, whether the passenger has the right to use the vehicle, and (d) for allowing the electric device to be connected to the inside-vehicle

information communication apparatus to enable communication therebetween in the vehicle if the managing section confirms that the passenger has the right to use the vehicle,

the electric device including:

(a) a radio section for transmitting information to and receiving information from the communication section of the inside-vehicle information communication apparatus;

(b) a memory section for storing the electronic ticket information and private information; and

(c) a controlling section for controlling the radio section and the memory section.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): An inside-vehicle information communication system, comprising:

a vehicle for carrying passengers; and

an inside-vehicle information communication apparatus which is provided in the vehicle,

the inside-vehicle information communication apparatus including:

a communication section for transmitting information to and receiving information from an electric device possessed by a passenger of the vehicle; and

a managing section (a) for outputting a request for electronic ticket information to the electric device possessed by the passenger, upon receipt of a request for connection outputted from the electric device, (b) for receiving the electronic ticket information via the communication section, (c) for confirming, based on the electronic ticket information, whether the passenger has the right to use the vehicle, and (d) for allowing the electric device to be connected to the inside-vehicle information communication apparatus to enable communication therebetween if the managing section confirms that the passenger has the right to use the vehicle.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The inside-vehicle information communication system set forth in claim 12, further comprising a vehicle for carrying the passenger.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The inside-vehicle information communication system set forth in claim 12, wherein said electric device is portable.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): An inside-vehicle information communication program, wherein a server, provided in a vehicle, is made to execute respective steps of an inside-vehicle information communication method, the method comprising steps of:

causing a server, provided in a vehicle, to output a request for electronic ticket information to an electric device possessed by a passenger of the vehicle, upon receipt of a request for connection from the electric device;

causing the server to receive the electronic ticket information, outputted from the electric device upon receipt of the request for the electronic ticket information; and

causing the server to confirm, based on the electronic ticket information, whether the passenger has a right to use the vehicle and to allow the electric device to be connected to the server to enable communication therebetween if the server confirms that the passenger has the right to use the vehicle.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): A recording medium, which stores an inside-vehicle information communication program for making a server, provided in a vehicle, execute respective steps of an inside-vehicle information communication method, the method comprising steps of:

causing a server, provided in a vehicle, to output a request for electronic ticket information to an electric device possessed by a passenger of the vehicle, upon receipt of a request for connection from the electric device;

causing the server to receive the electronic ticket information, outputted from the electric device upon receipt of the request for the electronic ticket information; and

causing the server to confirm, based on the electronic ticket information, whether the passenger has a right to use the vehicle and to allow the electric device to be connected to the server to enable communication therebetween in the vehicle if the server confirms that the passenger has the right to use the vehicle.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A vehicle-provided communication network system, comprising a server, provided in a vehicle, and an information communication terminal, provided in the vehicle, wherein:

the information communication terminal comprises (a) a reading section for reading a first using condition to use the system from a first information recording medium in which the first using condition is recorded, and (b) a transmitting section for transmitting the first using condition, read by the reading section, to the server; and

the server comprises (a) a memory section for storing a second using condition to use the system, (b) a first checking section for checking the first using condition, transmitted from the transmitting section of the information communication terminal, with the second using condition, stored in the memory section, and (c) a communication controlling section which enables information communication in the vehicle, performed between the server and the information communication terminal, only in a case where the first checking section judges that the both the first and second using conditions are identical to each other.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): A vehicle-provided communication network system which performs information communication between a server, provided in a vehicle, and an information communication terminal, provided in the vehicle, the server comprising (a) an external communication section for performing information communication with an information communication apparatus outside the vehicle, and (b) a memory section for storing identification information of a portable communication terminal connected to the information communication terminal; and

wherein the system further comprises:

a relay section for performing a relay with respect to communication performed between the information communication apparatus and the portable communication terminal, or receiving information transmitted from the information communication apparatus, instead of the portable communication terminal, in a case where the external communication section receives information transmitted from the information communication apparatus to the portable communication terminal, the information being the identification information stored in the memory section.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The vehicle-provided communication network system set forth in claim 18, wherein:

said server further includes:

an external communication section for performing information communication with an information communication apparatus outside the vehicle; and

a storing section for storing information received via the external communication section from the information communication apparatus, before or after the information communication performed between the server and the information communication terminal begins, the information communication terminal using the information stored in the storing section after the information communication performed between the server and the information communication terminal begins.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The vehicle-provided communication network system set forth in claim 18, wherein the server further includes:

an external communication section for performing information communication with an information communication apparatus outside the vehicle; and

means for forwarding information, processed by the information communication terminal, via the external communication section to the information communication apparatus outside the vehicle.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The vehicle-provided communication network system set forth in claim 20, wherein the server includes assigning information registration means for registering assigning information to assign information, and obtains information assigned by the assigning information via the external communication section from the information communication apparatus outside the vehicle, after the information communication performed between the server and the information communication terminal begins.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): An information recording medium issuing apparatus which issues a first information recording medium storing a using condition to use a vehicle-provided communication network system in which information communication is performed in a vehicle between a server and an information communication terminal, both located in the

vehicle, and sets a first using condition to use the vehicle-provided communication network system and a second using condition to use the vehicle in advance, comprising:

a third reading section for reading a third using condition from a second information recording medium in which the third using condition to use the vehicle is stored; a second reading section for reading the second using condition that has been set; a checking section for checking the second using condition, read by the second reading section, with the third using condition, read by the third reading section; a first reading section for reading the first using condition that has been set; and a recording section for recording the first using condition in the first information recording medium, wherein

said recording section records the first using condition in the first information recording medium, when the checking section judges that the second using condition is identical to the third using condition.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): An information recording medium issuing apparatus which issues an information recording medium recording a using condition to use a vehicle-provided communication network system in which information communication is performed in a vehicle between a server and an information communication terminal, both located in the vehicle, and a using condition to use the vehicle, and sets a first using condition to use the vehicle-provided communication network system and a second using condition to use the vehicle in advance, comprising:

an outputting section for outputting a third using condition to use the vehicle; a second reading section for reading the second using condition that has been set; a checking section for checking the second using condition read by the second reading section with the third using condition outputted by said outputting section; a first reading section for reading the first using condition that has been set; and a recording section for recording the first using condition, and the second using condition, in the information recording medium, wherein the recording section records the first using condition and the second using condition in the information recording medium, when the checking section judges that the second using condition is identical to the third using condition.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The vehicle-provided communication network system set forth in claim 18, wherein the server includes deleting means for deleting information, and the deleting means deletes information, that has been processed by the information communication terminal, after the information communication, performed between the server and the information communication terminal, is finished.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The vehicle-provided communication network system set forth in claim 25, wherein the server includes an external communication section for performing information communication with an information communication apparatus outside the vehicle, and the external communication section forwards the information, that has been processed by the information communication terminal, to the information communication apparatus outside the vehicle, before the deleting means deletes the information.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The vehicle-provided communication network system set forth in claim 19, further comprising a switching section for cutting off a connection between the portable communication terminal and the server so as to reconnect the portable communication terminal to another portable communication terminal, wherein the switching section cuts off the connection between the portable communication terminal and the server, after the information communication performed between the server and the portable communication terminal is finished, and reconnects the portable communication terminal to the other portable communication terminal.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The vehicle-provided communication network system set forth in claim 19, further comprising start setting means for setting a start time when the relay begins, wherein the server begins to relay communication performed between the information communication apparatus outside the vehicle and the portable communication terminal at the start time set by the start setting means.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The vehicle-provided communication network system set forth in claim 19, further comprising deleting means for deleting the using condition

or the identification information stored in the memory section, wherein the first information recording medium further stores information concerning a term of validity in which the first information recording medium can be used, and the deleting means deletes the using condition or the identification information stored in the memory section after the term of validity has passed.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The vehicle-provided communication network system set forth in claim 18, further comprising environment setting means for setting an information communication environment, wherein the environment setting means sets a same information communication environment with respect to plural passengers of the vehicle, or sets the same information communication environment in accordance with the information recorded in the first information recording medium.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): A vehicle-provided communication network system, comprising a server, the server including:

a communication section for performing communication with an information communication terminal in a vehicle;

a memory section for storing a using condition to use the system;

a first checking means for checking a using condition, received via the communication section from the information communication terminal, with the using condition stored in the memory section; and

a communication controlling section which enables information communication in the vehicle between the information communication terminal and the server only in a case where the first checking means judges that the both using conditions are identical to each other.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): An inside-vehicle information communication method, comprising steps of:

causing a server, provided in a vehicle, to receive electronic ticket information outputted from an electric device, possessed by a passenger of the vehicle, which outputs a request for connection to the server; and

causing the server to confirm, based on the electronic ticket information, whether the passenger has a right to use the vehicle and to allow the electric device to be connected to the server to enable communication therebetween in the vehicle if the server confirms that the passenger has the right to use the vehicle.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): An inside-vehicle information communication apparatus which is provided in a vehicle, comprising:

a communication section for transmitting information to and receiving information from an electric device possessed by a passenger of the vehicle; and

a managing section for (a) receiving electronic ticket information, outputted from the electric device which requests the inside-vehicle information communication apparatus to connect to the electric device, via the communication section, (b) for confirming, based on the electronic ticket information, whether the passenger has a right to use the vehicle, and (c) for allowing the electric device to be connected to the inside-vehicle information communication apparatus to enable communication therebetween if the managing section confirms that the passenger has the right to use the vehicle.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): An in-vehicle information communication method for providing in-vehicle information communication capability to a passenger carrying onto the vehicle an information terminal in which electronic ticket information is stored, the method comprising:

receiving at a server on the vehicle the electronic ticket information of the information terminal;

determining at the server, based on a confirming operation involving the received electronic ticket information, whether to connect the server to the information terminal; and

if the server connects to the information terminal to enable information communication therebetween in the vehicle, sending to the information terminal, from the server, notification information for notifying the passenger that the information terminal is connected to the server and can use the server for in-vehicle information communication.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): An in-vehicle information communication method for providing in-vehicle information communication capability to a passenger of a vehicle, the method comprising:

receiving at a server, from an information communication terminal on the vehicle, electronic ticket information for the passenger that is read from a storage medium carried onto the vehicle by the passenger;

determining at the server, based on a confirming operation involving the received electronic ticket information, whether to connect the server to the information terminal; and

if the server connects to the information terminal to enable information communication therebetween in the vehicle, sending to the information communication terminal, from the server, notification information notifying the passenger that the information communication terminal is connected to the server and can use the server for in-vehicle information communication.